

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KINSHA 05070 201214Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 OC-06 CCO-00 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05
MCT-01 AID-05 PC-01 SCS-06 CA-01 EUR-12 HA-05
IO-13 /106 W

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O 201112Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9834

C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 5070

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MOPS, PINS, CG
SUBJECT: SHABA II SITREP: MAY 20, 1978

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION KINSHASA MAY 20
REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUBUMBASHI 0517

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI MOPS CG
SUBJ: SHABA II SITREP: MAY 20, 1978

1. AMERICAN CITIZENS:

(A) METHODISTS TRIED TO CONTACT TWO MISSIONARY FAMILIES
IN KOLWEZI BY RADIO DURING MORNING OF MAY 20, BUT AS OF 0830
HAD NOT HAD ANY SUCCESS.

(B) CATHOLIC MISSIONARY HEADQUARTERS IN LUBUMBASHI NS
CINFORMED THE PRESENCE OF FATHERS URBAN (VALTRUIS) MESSERICH AN
CYRIL WAGNER IN KOLWEZI. V FATHERS JAMES HEFFMAN AND RICHARD JESKE
ARE NOW REPORTED TO BE ENROUTE FROM SANDOA TO KAMINA.

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PAGE 02 KINSHA 05070 201214Z

2. MILITARY ACTIVITIES:

(A) GCM OFFICIALS BELIEVE SOM SECTIONS OF THE CITY OF KOLWEZI WERE
TAKEN BY FRENCH PARATROOPERS DURING THE PAST 24 HOURS, BUT OTHER
PORTIONS STILLREMAIN IN THE REBELS' HANDS.
SOME RESISTANCE

WAS NOTED IN THE OLD SECTION OF THE CITY NEAR GCM'S MANIKA CLUB. THE BELGIAN CONSUL GENERAL HAS HAD PRIVATE CONFIRMATION THAT THE CORPSES OF 44 EUROPEANS HAVE BEEN FOUND NEAR THE NOTRE DAME CHURCH IN THE CENTER OF THE OLD CITY. NO IDENTIFICATION OF THE DEAD IS YET AVAILABLE. PLANES WILL BEGIN BRINGING REFUGES TO LUBUMBASHI AND KAMINA THIS MORNING WHERE MEDICAL AND RELIEF CENTERS ARE BEING SET UP. GCM WILL PROBABLY SEND HOME TO EUROPE IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS AS MANY OF ITS KOLWEZI EMPLOYEES AS WANT TO DEPART.

(B); LUBUMBASHI AIRPORT ACTIVITIES: FOUR C-130'S -ARRIVED LUBUMBASHI AT 1930-2000 LOCAL TIME MAY 19 WITH FRENCH PARACOMMANDOS AND MATERIAL. C-130S DEPARTED FOR KOLWEZI AT 0600 LOCAL TIME, MAY 20. FRENCH HAVE ENLISTED FAZ SOLDIERS AS GUIDES. AIRPORT AUTHORITIES EXPECT FOUR MORE MILITARY AIRCRAFT (POSSIBLY AMERICAN OR FRENCH) TO ARRIVE IN LUBUMBASHI MORNING OF MAY 20 FROM KINSHASA.

3. MILITARY POSITIONS: NO INFORMATION AVAILABLE.

4. POLITICAL:

(A) KOLWEZI. A ZAIRIAN ENGINEER WHO WAS MANAGER OF THE GCM WESTERN WORKSHOPS IN KOLWEZI ESCAPED FROM THE TOWN ON MAY 17 WHEN FAZ EVACUATED ITS QUARTIER GENERAL EAST OF THE NEW TOWN. ON THE EVENING OF MAY 19 HE ARRIVED IN LUBUMBASHI. HE NOTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN MANY DEATHS WHEN HE LEFT. HE SAID THAT THE INVADERS HAD NOT BOTHERED GCM ZAIRIAN CADRE AND WORKERS DURING

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KINSHA 05070 201214Z

THE FIRST DAYS, BUT HAD KILLED MANY OFFICIALS AND LOCAL ZAIRIAN BUSINESSMEN. OFFICIALS HAVE BEEN TARGETS IN THE PAST. THE BUSINESSMEN, WHO INCLUDE MANY LUNDAS, MAY HAVE BEEN KILLED BECAUSE THEY RESISTED THE GENERAL LOOTING. THE ZAIRIAN ENGINEER NOTED THAT IN HIS SECTION OF TOWN, IT WAS THE ZAIRIAN MILITARY WHO WERE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PILLAGING.

(B) LUBUMBASHI, LIKASI, KAMINA, AND THE TOWN OF WESTERN SHABA HAVE REMAINED QUIET.

5. PETROLEUM STOCKS: PETRO-SEP/LUBUMBASHI REP REPORTS THAT AS OF MAY 19 PETROLEUM SUPPLIES IN SHABA ARE AS FOLLOWS: 260 MT OF GASOLINE (OF WHICH GCM HOLDS 200 M3), 3700 MT OF DIESEL (OF WHICH GCM HOLDS 3500 M3, THE STRATEGIC STOCK ACCOUNTS FOR 80 M3, AND 120 M3 WAS TO BE AVAILABLE FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES) AND 562 M3 OF JP1.

THE STOCKS OF GASOLINE IN PARTICULAR ARE DANGEROUSLY LOW. MUCH OF GCM'S DIESEL WAS HELD AT KOLWEZI. NO SHIPMENTS ARE EXPECTED OVER THE WEEKEND BECAUSE OF A DERAILMENT AT SAKANI NEAR THE ZAMBIAN BORDER.

6. PSYCHOLOGICAL/RUMBLING :

SEVERAL INFORMANTS REPORT THE SCEPTICISM THAT GREETED THIS MORNING'S MAY 20, ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE VOICE OF ZAIRE THAT THE FAZ HAD INTERCEPTED A MESSAGE FROM MBUMBA TO HIS TROOPS IN KOLWEZI THAT, IN RETREATING THEY SHOULD DESTROY THE GECAMINES INSTALLATIONS, KIDNAP YOUNG ZIAIRIANS AND KILL WHITE HOSTAGES. FAZ BEHAVIOUR IN LUBUMBASHI IS SAID TO BE AT BASE OF POPULAR DISTRUST OF ANYTHING COMING FROM THE GOVT. ONE REPORTED INCIDENT HAD A GROUP OF SOLDIERS FROM THE KAMANYOLA DIVISION STATIONED INFRONT OF LUBUMBASHI'S CENTRAL MARKET FRIDAY, MAY 19, ROUNDING UP PASSERS-BY AND CARTING THEM OFF TO AN UNKNOWN DESTINATION. ID-CAR CHECKS BY MILITARY WERE VISABLE ALL OVER TOWN AS WAS MILITARY VENALITY. HENCE CERTAIN SOURCES LOOK UPON THE CURRENT DANGER TO THE POPULATION IN KOLWEZI, ESPECIALLY THE LUNDA, AS COMING NOT FROM THE INVADERS
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PAGE 04 KINSHA 05070 201214Z

BUT FROM THE FAZ.
BROG
UNQUOTE
CUTLER

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NNN

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